

FMC Newsletter

October 2019



Recent FMC Developments

CAP Review

The FMC has responded to the President of the Family Division's consultation about the Child Arrangements Programme ('the CAP Review'). The response reinforces the value of mediation and argues that respondents should be required to attend MIAMs, welcomes the idea of a network of local services to support separating families (but only if this is supported by sufficient resources), acknowledges the importance of ensuring that assessment meetings are delivered with consistent quality, and agrees to support the CAP reviewers in supplying data where this is available. The full response can be read [here](#).

Family Mediation Survey 2019

The FMC will shortly be issuing its 2019 survey, which aims to capture from registered mediators useful information including the extent and success rates of family mediation. A similar survey was first conducted two years ago, and this one will provide the FMC with up-to-date information which it can compare against the previous results. We encourage all mediators to respond to the survey. The results will be published and shared with the Ministry of Justice and CAP reviewers, who currently estimate the amount of mediation carried out (from legal aid figures), which we know (from our 2017 survey) forms a small proportion of your work.

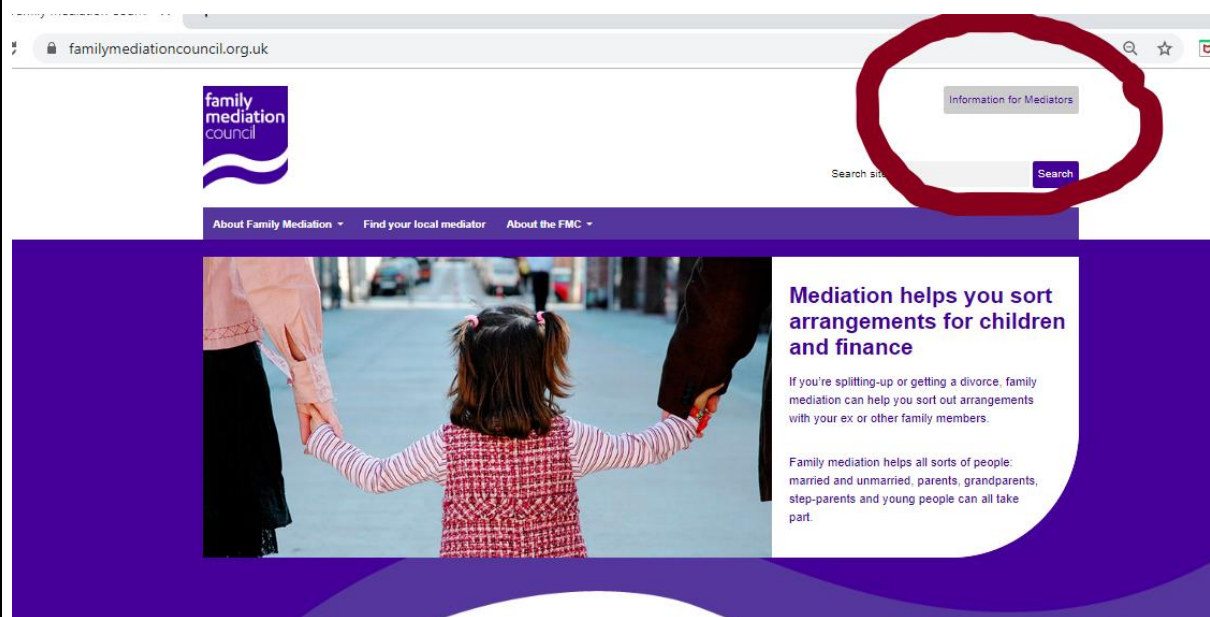
Standards Review

Following the accreditation survey in the Spring, the Standards Review Accreditation Working Group identified a number of actions to help mediators who are working towards accreditation, that could be implemented quickly. As well as the Standards Framework being amended and a list of available PPCs being made available in the Summer, a number of the documents that the group identified as being useful to mediators have now been produced. These are: observation prompts for use when observing an FMCA mediator, reflection sheet for use following mediation, guidance on obtaining client permission to be observed, and guidance on providing information

to clients about costs. These are available on the FMC website [here](#); more resources will be added here as they become available.

FMC Website

Information for Mediators and for PPCs has a new home in the top right-hand corner of the FMC website, as indicated here:



We've moved this information from the main tabs to de-clutter the site for (potential) mediation users. Behind the 'Information for Mediators' button, you will find pages for people who are considering becoming family mediators, mediators working towards accreditation, accredited mediators, PPCs, and mediators returning to practice, as well as information relevant to all of the above groups, such as the Standards Framework. We aim to keep improving this area of the website, and will add additional resources as they become available.

FMC Web Search Facility

The FMC is working to review its registration processes, and the information that it makes available on each mediator's online profile. At present, the website provides regulatory and contact information. We are aware of a small number of accredited mediators who do not offer MIAMs who are receiving referrals through the website from people requesting MIAMs. The FMC wants the website to be as useful as possible to members of the public and is therefore seeking to establish whether this is a widespread problem. Please contact Helen Anthony at executive@familymediationcouncil.org.uk if you receive referrals through the website that you cannot assist with because you do not offer the service that is sought.

PPCs

The FMSB has formed a PPC Panel to address issues relating to the work of PPCs. Mediators Mabel Edge, Lesley Saunders and Zen Thompson are working alongside FMSB members Beryl Darling and Ian Hamer to identify issues that arise as a result of the introduction of the PPC Code of Practice and Guidance in early 2019. One of the first actions for the group is to draft a template PPC/Mediator agreement that is compatible with the Code and Guidance, for use by PPCs if they choose. The panel would like to hear from you if you think of any other resources which would be useful. Please send all ideas to Helen Anthony at executive@familymediationcouncil.org.uk. The panel cannot commit to making the requested resources available but will consider all ideas.

CPD

Mediators are reminded that the annual 10-hour CPD requirement can be met in a number of ways. Attending training courses, seminars or conferences, writing articles or delivering training, watching webinars, reading books or researching and writing papers can all count, as long as the topics and activities are appropriate to you in your mediation career, and the learning contributes to the development of your understanding of family mediation. A mixture of factual updates (e.g. legal) and soft skills development is generally required, unless a mediator has a specific reason to carry out other development activities. Mediators are reminded that when they apply to renew accreditation, they will need to note what benefit they have brought to their clients through the development activities that they have undertaken.

CIM Understanding and Awareness Day and CIM Update Day

Please remember that there is a requirement for all accredited mediators to carry out specific CIM related CPD within a specified time frame. Mediators who are accredited, but not previously trained in DCC, need to attend a CIM Awareness and Understanding Day. Mediators who are accredited, and have been previously trained in DCC, will need to attend a CIM Update Day.

For mediators who have renewed their accreditation in 2019, this CPD should be carried out by 1 January 2020. For mediators who have not renewed their accreditation in 2019, this CPD should be carried out before their next renewal of accreditation. There are a number of courses taking place in November and December – see below for details.

The FMC is aware of a small number of mediators who have a 1.1.20 deadline to attend these CIM CPD courses, but who are having difficulties in meeting this deadline. At its meeting in November, the FMSB will consider how these mediators can be helped to meet the CIM CPD requirements.

Resolution and the Law Society Guidance on Drafting Outcome Documentation

The FMC is pleased to note that the Law Society and Resolution have published guidance on drafting outcome documentation, which is consistent with the FMC Code of Practice. 'Helping participants realise an enduring outcome to family mediation' is available [here](#).

Opportunities for Mediators

Please see the FMC website [here](#) for information about opportunities for mediators, including:

- Accredited Family Mediator Vacancy: Peterborough, Loughborough, Bedford and Milton Keynes
- Family Mediation Vacancy: Norfolk Family Mediation Service
- Jane Knight Scholarship
- Trainee Mediator Opportunity: Family Mediation Centre Staffordshire

Upcoming Events & Training

The FMC aims to bring you information about training, courses and workshops related to family mediation, to aid professional development. Courses are also listed on our [website](#), where you will find more details about submitting events to be included.

CIM Courses

- 8 November, Adrian Wright & Judi Lyons: CIM Update Day, Leicester. For more information please contact lyons@ntlworld.com or achieve.it@virgin.new
- 12 November, NFM: [CIM Update Day](#), London
- 13 November, NFM: [CIM Awareness and Understanding Day](#), Warrington
- 14 November, Resolution: [CIM Update Day](#), London
- 18 – 19 November & 3 February, Adrian Wright & Judi Lyons: CIM Training, Abingdon. For more information please contact lyons@ntlworld.com or achieve.it@virgin.new
- 28 November, FMA: [CIM Awareness and Understanding Day](#), London
- 29 November, FMA: [CIM Update Day](#), London
- 5 December, FMA: [CIM Awareness and Understanding Day](#), Durham
- 6 December, FMA: [CIM Update Day](#), Durham

- 21 January 2020, Resolution: [CIM Understanding and Awareness Day](#), London
- 11 February 2020, NFM: [CIM Awareness and Understanding Day](#), London
- 23 – 25 March 2020, FMA: [Child Inclusive Mediation Training](#), London
- 21 – 23 April 2020, NFM: [Child Inclusive Mediation Training](#), London
- 29 April 2020, NFM: [CIM Update Day](#), Birmingham
- 30 April 2020, NFM: [CIM Awareness and Understanding Day](#), Birmingham
- 8 July 2020, NFM: [CIM Awareness and Understanding Day](#), London

PPC Courses

- 14 – 15 November, FMA: [PPC Foundation Training](#), London
- 18 November, FMA: [PPC Update of Theory and Practice](#), London
- 2 December, FMA: [PPC Update of Theory and Practice](#), Manchester
- Ongoing, NFM Training: [Professional Practice Consultancy Training](#), Distance learning

Other CPD Courses

- 4 – 5 November and later dates, LBA Excellence: [Family Refresher Training](#), London
- 6 – 8 November, NFM: [Refresher Training for Family Mediators](#), London
- 21 November, FMA: [Parental Alienation Advanced Day](#), Leeds
- 25 November, FMA: [Mini Conference – ‘FMA On The Road’](#), Manchester
- 26 November, FMA: [Motivational Interviewing](#), London
- 26 November, NFM: [Positions, Interests & Needs Workshop](#), London
- 27 November, NFM: [Through a Narrative Lens Workshop](#), London
- 24 March 2020, FMA: [Mini Conference – ‘FMA On The Road’](#), Peterborough
- 12 May 2020, FMA: [Sustainable Agreements](#), Leeds
- 20 May 2020, FMA: [Using Communication Theory in working with stress and conflict in mediation](#), London
- 3 June 2020, FMA: [Increasing Empathy in your mediation practice](#), London
- 30 June 2020, FMA: [Mini Conference – ‘FMA On The Road’](#), Leeds

Introductory and Foundation Courses

- 7 November, [NFM: Introduction to Mediation](#), London
- 1 December (and later dates), [NFM: Family Mediation Training](#), London
- 10 February 2020 (and later dates), FMA: [Foundation Training Programme](#), London
- 2 March 2020 (and later dates), Resolution: [Mediation Foundation Training](#), London
- 23 September 2020 (and later dates), FMA: [Foundation Training Programme](#), London

*Family Mediation Council
International Dispute Resolution Centre
70 Fleet Street
London EC4Y 1EU*

www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk

01707 594055

Company reg no: 9560220